

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**This document is from the files of the Office of  
the Maine Attorney General as transferred to  
the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference  
Library on January 19, 2022**

July 9, 1946

To S. F. Dorrance, Livestock Specialist  
Animal Industry

This department acknowledges receipt of your memo of July 3rd, to which was attached a claim for \$300, approved by the selectmen of the Town of Temple, for damage done by wild animals to beaver of the claimant, Alex W. Sanborn. Your inquiry from this department is whether a beaver is a domestic animal for which a claim may be allowed and paid under the provisions of Section 16 of Chapter 88.

The wording of the statute is, "Whenever any sheep, lambs, or other domestic animals are killed or injured by dogs or wild animals," etc., and then other provisions for the method of appraising and determining the compensation to be paid.

A beaver is not a domestic animal. Hence this damage is not compensable under the provisions of this statute. "Domestic animals" as there used, refers to such animals as are "tamed, associated with family life, accustomed to live in or near the habitations of man, pertaining, belonging or relating to a house."

Abraham Breitbard  
Deputy Attorney General

AB:c